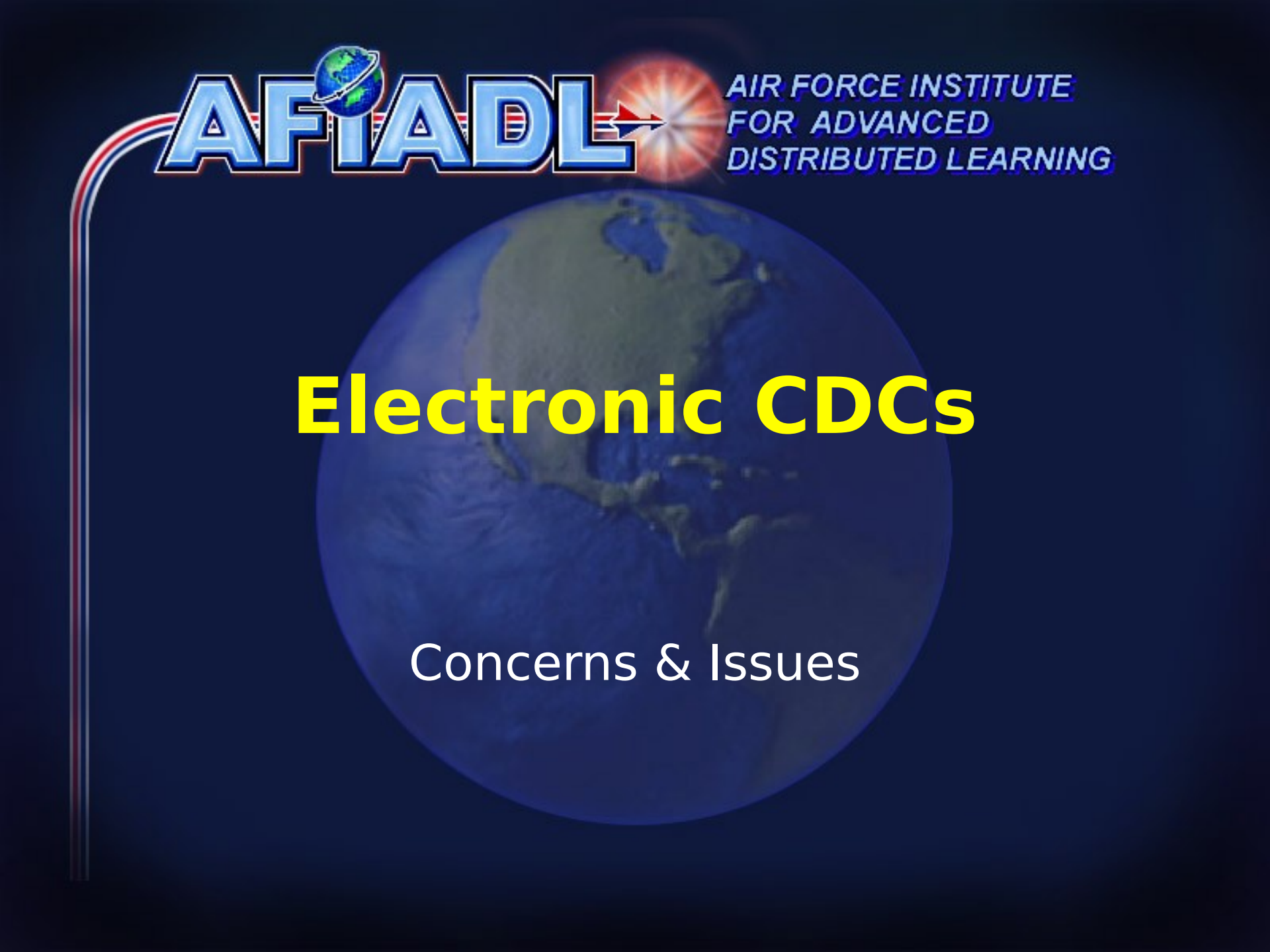

Electronic CDCs

Concerns & Issues

1. Purpose of CDCs

- **Primary**: teach airmen the subject/task knowledge portion of their job for upgrade training (1963)

- **Secondary:** provide study references for WAPS (1969)

2. Using Technology Correctly

- Learning requirement must drive selection process—not technology
- Selected technology must provide best instructional solution
- Instructional solution must meet customers' needs and expectations
  - 50+ AF functional communities
  - 160K airmen yearly

3. Full Electronic Delivery/little Interactivity

- “Page turners”— hundreds of pages
- Access: WAPS, ANG, AFR
- **Research**: students read slower/retain less on current computer screens
- Students forced to scroll endlessly
- Lose portability
- Costly: students will print at AF expense

4. Full Interactive Electronic Delivery

- CD-ROM
  - Very expensive/time-consuming
    - 350 courses, 1400 textbooks, 210,000 pages
  - Access: WAPS, ANG, AFR
- Web
  - Same: expense, access
  - Firewalls prevent delivery
  - Current bandwidth not adequate

Our Solution — Hybrid CDCs

- Combine paper with multimedia enhancements
  - Use multimedia only where appropriate
  - Continue to use books where reading required
- Move to multimedia in small increments
  - Initially where students having problems
  - Make as interactive as possible
- Initially on CD-ROM; Web later — possibly

Getting There

- Setting standards/developing guidance (hybrid CDC guide, html shells)
- Analyzing all CDCs for potential multimedia enhancement
- Training our staff, course authors, etc.
- Coordinating with IT units
- Developing storage process of reusable/interoperable courseware

With CDCs Remain Focused

- On their purpose
- Meeting student & functional customer needs
- Using technology where it makes sense — educationally and economically

Hybrid Example

Click to view example